

News briefs

ALS graduation

The Airman Leadership School graduation is Thursday, beginning at 6 p.m. with social hour, in the Saber Club. The ceremony takes place at 6:30 p.m. Uniform wear is mess dress or semi-formal.

For more information, call 452-9455.

NCO course

Seats are available for the NCO Professional Development Course, Sept. 23-26. Nominees should be submitted to unit first sergeants.

The course takes place on the third floor of building 130. Uniform wear is BDUs.

For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Jeff Bingman at 452-6703.

Extended duty child care

The waiver of the parent co-payment for extended duty family child care is extended through September. This means the program is free for parents who require child care during extended duty hours.

Call Connie Wilson at 452-9022 for more information.

TRICARE number

The 52nd Medical Group established a single phone number to call for all local TRICARE questions.

People needing information about Aerovac, civilian care, referrals, claims or primary care manager enrollment can call 06561-693100 and follow the menu options.

Finance closure

The 52nd Comptroller Squadron closes today at noon for an official function. In case of emergency, call 0160-8809937.

Commissary holiday hours

The Spangdahlem Air Base Commissary closes Sept. 2 in observance of Labor Day. The Bitburg Annex Commissary opens 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Remembrance ceremony

The Air Force Sergeant's Association sponsors a Sept. 11 remembrance ceremony. The group seeks the involvement of the Spangdahlem Air Base and Bitburg Annex communities and organizations.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Nancy Barron-Palumbo at 452-6390.

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Eifel Times

Vol. 36, Issue 30

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

Aug. 23, 2002



Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

First things first

Staff Sgt. Jacob Smith, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron explosives ordinance disposal journeyman, dons his gas mask prior to performing initial reconnaissance of a suspected weapon of mass destruction during the Euro Lightning Phase One and a half last week. During the exercise, the wing was tested on its ability to deploy jets to a location downrange, while under attack. The wing continued honing skills this week with "Warfighter Week." Officials said the wing is getting better during each exercise. For more on how the wing performed last week, see Page 6.

After an attack, knowledge is key

CE readiness gives instruction on detecting chemicals, decontamination

By Senior Airman Candice Harden
52nd Civil Engineer Squadron Readiness Flight

The words "Alarm Red MOPP 4" or a one-minute warbling tone sounds over the giant voice, what now? The first reaction should be to remove the gas mask from the carrier and don it as quickly as possible — and at the same time run to a shelter.

People might wonder if they are ready for the attack. Did they prepare themselves and the surroundings? What were they actually supposed to do to get ready for an attack?

During Alarm Yellow, everyone should know that an attack is probable and that it is the time to prepare for possible future

events. Making sure gear is readily available, placing M8 and M9 paper, inspecting the M291 and M295 kits and locating the closest bunker are all part of the preparation process that needs to take place during Alarm Yellow.

Now everyone knows what he or she needs to do to prepare, but does everyone really know what all the gear is for? The first thing to look for is the M8 and M9 paper. In the chemical gear bag there should be a booklet sealed in plastic (M8) and a box wrapped in white paper with writing all over it (M9). These two kits detect chemical agents in liquid, nerve and blister form.

Inside the front cover of the M8 paper is a color chart with color possibilities for positive contamination. Gold or yellow indicates G-type nerve agents, red-brown indicates other G-type nerve agents, pink or red indicates H-blister agents or lewisite; and dark green or blue indicates V-type nerve agents. There's a

See Knowledge, Page 2

Errors found in family member SGLI coverage

Compiled from staff reports

Serviceman's Group Life Insurance extended coverage to spouses for a premium charge in November 2001. Those who didn't want the coverage had to initiate a declination form at the military personnel flight.

However, officials have discovered an error in the system concerning military-to-military couple enrollment.

All "mil-to-mil" couples were automatically enrolled on Nov. 1, 2001, the same as civilian-spouse couples. The error lies in the fact military couples haven't been charged for the coverage unless they actively confirmed enrollment at the MPF. Mostly, couples haven't accepted or declined the coverage.

Each active-duty member of a military couple is automatically enrolled in SGLI as an active-duty member. Members who don't

want the additional coverage need to cancel that portion of the SGLI at the MPF.

Members are accruing the monthly premiums ranging from \$9 to \$55 monthly, but aren't being charged. They will be charged for the coverage they have already received in a lump sum upon updating DEERS.

Members wanting to discontinue the additional coverage must complete the necessary paperwork at the MPF customer

service desk. At that time, they will be billed for the coverage they have received since November and additional coverage will cease.

Members who choose continue the additional coverage must also register and get billed for the coverage they've already received. Then the normal monthly premium charges will begin.

For more information, call MPF customer service at 452-6553.

Accidents

By John W. Keeler
52nd Security Forces Squadron Reports and Analysis

Twenty-seven Team Eifel members experienced vehicle accidents in the past week, three of which were major.

The first major accident was on K-33 near Orenhofen. An airman lost control of her vehicle, slid off the road and rolled approximately three times before stopping. Investigation by security forces found excessive speed, along with gravel on the road, to be contributing factors. The airman complained of neck and back pain and was taken to the Trier-Ehrang Krankenhaus for an evaluation. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

The second was on L-46 near Spangdahlem Air Base's main gate. An airman slowed her vehicle and was rear-ended by a local national. Another vehicle rear-ended the second vehicle. One of the second vehicle's occupants complained of injuries to the chest and shoulders. The other two vehicle occupants were not injured. Vehicular damage to the first was confined to the rear of her vehicle. The second and third vehicles sustained an unknown amount of damage. Bitburg Polizei responded and assumed the investigation.

The third was on L-39 near the Herforst turnoff. An airman approaching the traffic light lost control of his vehicle when he tried to slow down. His brakes locked and he hit several roadside markers. No injuries were reported. The vehicle was damaged in the front and on the passenger side and was towed from the scene.

The other accidents involved:

- 15 from inattentive driving.
- Two animal strikes.
- Six while backing.

■ One fleeing the scene.

In addition, 37 citations were issued.

Regulation Tid-bit

Suspension of Driving Privileges

Anyone driving a U.S. Army Europe-plated vehicle must have a USAREUR license. Recently, there have been a lot of driving suspensions because USAREUR licensed drivers have allowed non-licensed individuals to drive their vehicles. The following information can be found in Spangdahlem Air Base Instruction 31-204, section 2, page 2, 15 May 1999. Additional information concerning non-licensed individuals operating a vehicle can be found in USAREUR Regulation 190-1, sec. 2-14, a-3, & para 4-10.

2.1. Declaration of Ineligibility for a USAREUR privately-owned vehicles driver's license for a minimum of 180 days for: ...operating a POV without being licensed or after the license has expired.

2.2.5. Suspensions may last a maximum of 180 days for: ... Allowing someone to operate a POV without a USAREUR POV drivers license or without a USAREUR POV license valid for the vehicle class operated.

4.10: Operation of USAREUR-Registered POVs by Persons Not Licensed Under This Regulation. ... (4) By guests of POV owners when both of the following apply:

- (a) A USAREUR-licensed member of the POV owner's household is present while the vehicle is operated.
- (b) The guest who operates the POV has a valid drivers license that is recognized by German authorities.

Knowledge

Continued from Page 1

list of detailed directions on exactly what to do with the paper on the back of the booklet.

M9 paper comes in a dispensing container with a cutting edge. To dispense the M9 paper, pull on the brown colored paper and a green-colored paper will come out. The M9 paper only turns one color - red. Different shades still indicate a positive reading.

There are two different ways of using these chemical agent detectors - actively or passively. To actively use M8 or M9 paper, the person needs to wear protective gloves. Next, tear off a strip of the paper and dip it in the suspected liquid.

If using M8, the next step is to compare the color of the paper to the color chart. When using M9 paper, check it for a reddish reading. Finally, report the findings.

To passively use both the M8 and M9 paper place the paper on either level surfaces or parallel to the ground to give falling liquid more surface contact. Remember, M9 paper is also used passively on the ground crew ensemble.

In the bag there should also be decontamination aids, made up with six small square kits (M291), usually bundled together in a wallet-like carrying case, and four larger rectangular kits (M295), usually placed in a sleeve.

Decontamination is very important to those who came into contact with chemicals. When used properly and timely, life threatening chemicals can be counteracted. Individuals who are contaminated need to use the M291 or M295 kits.

The M291 kit is used mainly for personal decontamination, while the M295 is primarily used for larger equipment items. They have the same basic principles for use and directions can be found on each kit.

To use, remove the applicator pad of the M291 or mitt of the M295 and scrub the possible contamination site. These items then need to be treated as contaminated so they must be disposed of in a contaminated waste bin.

People with questions can find this and more information in the Airman's Manual or the Ability to Survive to Operate Guide.

Briefs

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Traffic circle policy

The wing commander directs drivers traveling from B-50 to not use the traffic circle outside the Spangdahlem Air Base main gate to move to the front of the line.

Drivers who observe violators should report them to the law enforcement desk at 452-6666, using the Traffic Complaint Program. Violators are subject to disciplinary action from their commander. For more information, call the LE desk.

Passport office

Now through Sept. 6, the passport office is open Tuesday and Thursday by appointment only. Call 452-5519 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Air Force Ball

The Spangdahlem Air Base Air Force Ball takes place Sept. 6 at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center.

This year's ball is themed 55 Years of Pride, Patriotism and Freedom.

Ticket prices are \$15 for E-1 through E-6 and GS-1 through GS-7; \$20 for E-7 and above and GS-8 and above. There's an extra \$3 charge for non-club members. For tickets, call group representatives:

Wing staff agencies: 2nd Lt. Patrick Armstrong, 452-5980.

52nd Operations Group: Capt. Jennifer Ranous, 452-4060, or 1st Lt. Nancy Velie, 452-5608.

52nd Mission Support Group: Capt. Eduardo Quero, 452-6162, Capt. Julie Wende, 452-5036, or 1st Lt. Sean Carter, 452-9494.

52nd Maintenance Group: 1st Lt. Matty Garr, 452-6322, or 2nd Lt. Jason McFeaters, 452-6641.

52nd Medical Group: Capt. Donna Hornberger, 452-8155.

Furniture sale

The Eifel Furniture store on the Bitburg Annex holds a mega clearance sale Aug. 31 with savings of 5 to 75 percent.

SNCO induction ceremony

The 2002 Senior Noncommissioned Officer induction ceremony takes place Sept. 14 at 6 p.m. in the base fitness center. The guest speaker is the ninth Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James C. Binnicker.

Call unit first sergeants, Master Sgt. Maurice Washington at 452-4998 or Master Sgt. Jeffrey Vanscoy at 452-6730 to reserve a seat.

Military personnel flight hours

Wing military personnel flight agencies are open from 7:30 a.m. to noon daily for appointments only. Walk-in service is offered from noon to 4:30 p.m.

Call outbound assignments at 452-6817, promotions and testing at 452-6344, re-enlistments at 452-7876, awards and decorations at 452-6221 or enlisted and officer evaluations at 452-6221 for more information.

Limited hours at Plaques Plus

The Plaques Plus shop, located in building 189, provides limited service Sept. 3-25. The shop will be open regular hours during the limited service time period and staff will continue to take orders.

However, customers placing orders should expect a three week delay in having their orders processed.

For more information, contact Plaques Plus at 06565-7120 or the Skills Development Center administrative offices at 452-6841.

Artists wanted

The Moselle Dining Facility is looking for individuals interested in painting a mural in the dining facility. People are wanted to paint an A-10 and an F-16 to honor the wing's fallen pilots. Materials will be provided. Interested people should call Tech. Sgt. Jeanna Morgan at 452-6727.

Excellence in competition

The 52nd Security Force Squadron hosts an elementary-level excellence-in-competition pistol match Sept. 20, beginning at 8 a.m.

Competition is open to all active duty, guard, reserve and retired military personnel. All services are welcome, including NATO members.

Space is limited to 100 people. Medals will be awarded to the top ten percent who shoot above 270 points, out of a possible 300.

For more information or to sign up for the event, call Tech. Sgt. Robert Hart at 452-7095.

VA briefing

A Veteran's Affairs briefing takes place Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon in Bitburg Annex building 2001. Individual appointments are available after the briefing.

For more information or to reserve a seat, call the family support center at 452-9491.

Review may spell relief to critically stressed career fields

By Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Relief may be just over the horizon for some of the Air Force's most critically stressed career fields.

A recent study of all Air Force specialties by career field functional managers and manpower and personnel experts identified 17 "stressed" career fields, said Col. John Vrba, chief of Air Force competitive sourcing and privatization at the Pentagon.

"Eventually, all of these stressed career fields will be taken care of, but because of time and money, we are concentrating our efforts on the six most stressed areas first," Vrba said.

These areas — security forces, intelligence, Office of Special Investigations, civil engineer readiness functions and enlisted aircrew members — were among the specialties most affected by the increase in mission requirements that came after the Sept. 11 attacks, Vrba said.

For example, the Air Force identified about 30,000 new manpower requirements shortly after Sept. 11, with half of those belonging to security forces.

"The increased threat conditions that we were operating under required us to drastically ramp up our force protection efforts," he explained. "As we are returning to a more stable steady-state routine, we are re-examining these requirements and believe we will be able to get the security forces requirements down to a few thousand."

While this is good news, trying to come up with a few thousand people to fill these new requirements is not an easy task, Vrba said.

"Increasing the overall end strength of the Air Force is not an option available to us," Vrba said. "These additional positions will need to be filled from 'in house' resources."

Therefore, the Air Force launched its Core Competency Review to find these additional resources.

"The CCR examined all Air Force positions and tried to determine what are the Air Force missions that had to be done by airmen, what tasks are better performed by airmen, and what services do we provide to our customers, the combatant commanders," he said.

The review looked for opportunities to free up airmen from tasks that do not require a "bluesuiter" and could just as easily be done by someone else — a federal civilian or by a contractor.

Throughout the review, officials made sure that any decision or proposal made would not negatively affect the service's ability to adequately meet deployments or overseas requirements, or compound the problem facing already stressed career fields, Vrba said.

The study has already identified approximately 2,500 positions that could be converted from military to civilian and 1,000 traditional Reserve positions that could be converted to full-time Reserve positions. Also, a request for funding is being worked in the FY 04 Program Objective Memorandum, or POM.

"This review is not an A-76 study," Vrba stressed.

"We aren't automatically going to convert military or federal employee positions to contract positions," he said. "And we don't have any set conversion quotas that we must meet. We simply are trying to take military or federal employees

out of missions that they don't need to be doing, and put those same people into jobs that do require military forces or federal employees.

"If we need to keep airmen in positions for wartime requirements, we will. However, if we find that having someone else do that job makes more sense, we have just freed up military resources to help our stressed career fields better accomplish the Air Force mission."

Although the Air Force is working hard toward relieving the high personnel tempo that many career fields are experiencing, it is not something that can be fixed overnight, Vrba said.

Since it takes nine months to a year to make significant changes to the training pipeline, the earliest that critically stressed career fields will start to see an impact is in fiscal 2004.

Vrba said Air Force officials are confident that this top-down review of how the service does business will find opportunities to free up military people from tasks they do not need to be doing and put those same people into areas that require military forces. (Air Force Print News)

Eifel Elite

Top Saber Performer

Name: Staff Sgt. Danielle C. Alexander
Unit: 52nd Medical Operations Squadron
Duty title: Medical services journeyman/emergency medical technician
Hometown: Lancaster, Calif.

Time in service: Six years
Nominee's contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success: She's an outstanding NCO! Staff Sergeant Alexander provided the highest quality health care to more than 15,000 personnel assigned to the wing. She performs various technical skills ranging from suturing, splinting, dressing changes, intravenous therapy and assisting physicians with minor surgical procedures. She maintains certification in National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, American Heart Associated Advanced Cardiac and Basic Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support qualifications and Hazardous Material First Responder. She emulates the true essence of an Air Force medic, according to Staff Sgt. Keith Wright, Alexander's supervisor.

Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits: Pursuing nursing degree and Community College of the Air Force completion, first aid for Boy Scouts Cub Camp and organized first aid volunteers for spring bazaar.

What do you do for fun? Or, What's a fun thing you've done lately? Travel as much as possible. Cod fishing off the coast of Denmark with outdoor rec. I also enjoy spending time with friends at the Singles Ministry Coffee Mill.

What do you like most about being stationed here?

We are centralized, making it easier to see all of Europe.

What's one thing you'd like to see changed or improved at Spang?

More convenient hours around base for shift workers. Because of manning issues, maybe a volunteer program for the base gym or closing during the non-busy hours and staying open later for those who work later would be nice. Also, more healthy choice of eating facilities. This may eliminate our obese population and cut down on health related problems if we had more choices.



Staff Sgt. Danielle Alexander, 52nd Medical Group, draws blood from a patient at Bitburg Annex Emergency Room.

Staff Sgt. Karen Z. Silcott



Senior Airman Angela Boemker, 52d Dental Squadron, performs a cleaning at the dental clinic for Staff Sgt. Andrew Heemer, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. Boemker is part of this week's Top Saber Team.

Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek

Top Saber Team

Unit Name: 52nd Dental Squadron Dental Bus Team

Unit responsibilities: To maintain the 52d Fighter Wing personnel in a state of optimal oral health and dental readiness. The dental squadron is constantly on the move in Europe. In fact, the dental treatment team is on the road 15 weeks per year operating out of the Air Force's only 40-foot-long air conditioned mobile dental bus. The bus provides comprehensive dental care for patients in four geographically-separated units in three countries. It features two dental treatment units, an X-ray machine, sterilization area, waiting room and handicap accessibility.

Number of members: One dentist and four technicians

Team's latest contributions to the 52nd Fighter Wing mission success:

The dental bus team treated 937 active duty and 455 family members in fiscal 2001, saving \$75,000 in patient

TDY travel costs. Additionally, the convenience of "bringing the clinic to the patient" saved active duty members 3,615 manhours in lost duty time.

Team's other contributions throughout the year: The dental bus functioned as the alternate dental clinic for the 470th Medical Flight at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen from May to July 2001 while their dental clinic was renovated. It was used to treat 1,375 patients who would have been obligated to seek dental care on the economy or drive about 90 minutes to Spangdahlem Air Base for dental care.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Karen Z. Silcott

Kimberly Biasotti, soon to be 2nd grader at Bitburg Elementry School, checks out just how much her feet have grown before buying new school shoes. School starts for base children Monday.

School bus safety

By David Kiely
Eifel Student Transportation Office

Safety is the most important factor in transporting your student to and from school.

All children must have a bus pass readily available to show to the driver/safety attendant. For safety reasons certain seats are prohibited or restricted. Please go over this with you children and support the driver/safety attendant when they relocate your child to another seat. The school bus seating diagram is included in the information package you receive in the mail.

If your child is not on the bus after school, call us at 06565-61-5340, 5352, or 0171-5519132, and we'll do everything possible to locate your child. We'll call the school, the bus company, other parents - whatever it takes! Sometimes students get off at a different stop with a friend or don't get on the bus at school. Our lost student procedures are also included in the information package.

Some drivers speak limited English. The contractor has English-speaking contract managers and we'll all work together to give the best service possible.

As a safety and security precaution, parents are not allowed on school buses without a bus monitor identification badge. For your child's safety, we prevent

unauthorized adults from boarding Department of Defense Dependent Schools buses.

Safety - a role for everybody

There are many differences between riding a school bus in the United States and here in Germany. The most important difference is that on German roads traffic may pass school buses that are loading and unloading students.

Traffic in Germany does not stop for school buses. Parents must teach their children to remain on the sidewalk and wait for the bus to depart before attempting to cross the street. Otherwise, a child attempting to cross a street in front of or behind a bus risks being injured by a motorist that is unable to see the child.

Your child's conduct while on the bus also plays a role in bus safety. Proper behavior on the bus allows the driver to focus on driving safely. Noisy or unruly buses prevent drivers from hearing emergency vehicles or horns. A reasonable noise level allows all the riders to have a pleasant experience and enjoy the ride.

Please support our safety measures and contact us with any questions or concerns at the Eifel Student Transportation Office at 452-5340 or 452-5352 or civilian 06565-61-5340 or 06565-615340, 0171-5519132.

With summer over, Monday ra

BACK TO

Greetings from the new district superintendent ...

By Archie W. Bates
Kaiserslautern District Superintendent

As we enter the new school year it will be exciting to meet current and/or new students, teachers, parents and military leaders. Each August we have the opportunity to begin anew. It affords us the chance to start fresh and recommit ourselves to changes, challenges and enhanced mission requirements.

This new school year will witness an expanded Kaiserslautern District with the inclusion of 10 schools from the former Brussels District. Just as some may wonder about how well the new district configuration will work, we at the district office are aware and cognizant of the fact that there will be some adjustments that will have to be made along the way. However, rest assured that there is certainty that all schools and communities affected will be treated equitably. Students, teachers, parents, and community concerns will be heard and responded to, no matter how near or far they are.

School year 2002-03 will begin with the new appointment of Elaine Grande who will serve as Assistant Superintendent along with Kathryn Forystek. In the coming months there will be an additional member (chief of staff) to the district office administrative staff, as well as other logistical and support positions will be decentralized to the district office to ensure

resources are placed closer to the schools and communities they serve.

Consistent with the Community Strategic Plan, there will be several target areas for this school year: Administrative leadership and "DoDEA Reads." These two messages will be presented loud and clear to all students, teachers, administrators, and parents during SY 2002-2003. References to these two goals will also be included in the new high school initiative that is funded for fiscal year 2003. In support of Goal 1 of the Community Strategic Plan, we recruited Dr. Steve Schrankel, Research and Evaluation Specialist. He will be involved with analyzing and interpreting test data and assisting in decisions to improve learning and instruction. Equally as important, we will continue to emphasize character education.

As we function for the first time as the newly redefined Kaiserslautern District, let us all accept the challenges that lie ahead. As we engage in quality administrative leadership, together with parent /community involvement, each school staff can be guided toward target areas where change is needed and implement the strategies that best meet those needs.

We look forward to an educationally exciting year and please know that you, students and parents, are our most important customers and the reason we exist.

School news

Orientations

■ New student orientations take place today at Spangdahlem Elementary School: First Grade Meet the Teacher Get-Together, 3:30 p.m.; orientation for all new families to Spangdahlem Elementary School, 4 p.m.

■ A Kindergarten Meet the Teacher Get Together takes place Monday at SES at 9 a.m. for boys and 10 a.m. for girls.

For more information, call SES at 452-6881.

PTSA members

The Spangdahlem Elementary School Parent, Teacher and Student Association seeks new members. The cost is \$3.50 for a single membership or \$6 for couples. Membership forms are available at most school functions or by e-mailing Linda_mcclemens@eu.ododeda.edu.

Registering for school

Parents who haven't registered students for the new year should visit the school office to complete the necessary documents. Classes begin Monday at all schools.

Youth sports news

■ The Department of Defense Dependent Schools requires all student athletes to have annual physical exams. Call the appointment line at 06565-958333 to schedule an appointment with the primary care manager.

■ Register for Tae Kwon Do classes in the Bitburg Annex building 84. Call 452-9508 for details.

■ Eifel Youth Sports are located in Spangdahlem Air Base building 427 and Bitburg Annex building 2013. Call 452-7545 or 452-9274 for youth sports opportunities.

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ISCHOOL

chools liaison officer explains position, programs

Audrey Burkell
schools liaison officer

My duties as the Schools Liaison Officer include serving as the logistical administrative liaison between the installation, school officials and the community, helping to enhance communications throughout the entire community and improving school-home-command partnership opportunities between commanders, parents and Department of Defense dependent Schools.

With the start of school just around the corner, I cannot stress enough how important community and family involvement is in a "child's education," and there are many ways you can get involved. Volunteer!! You don't have to be a parent to volunteer - if you want to help, your support is welcome. As the liaison officer, I welcome your inputs and will do my best to answer any questions you might have or to assist you in getting in touch with the appropriate person or avenue.

Free, reduced lunches

also manage the United States Department of Agriculture's free/reduced lunch program as well as administer the school bus discipline program for the schools.

Eligibility for the free and reduced lunches is based upon sponsor and sponsor's combined incomes to include basic allowance for subsistence and overseas housing allowance. Interested members may pick up applications at any of the schools, the mission support group or via the Web. The application has an annual requirement, so people who were eligible last year must, again, submit an application to determine eligibility this year. The cost of Army and Air Force Exchange Service school lunches will remain the same: 40 cents for reduced lunches; \$1.95 for grades K-6; and \$2.10 for grades 7-12.

Transportation discipline

Our goal for the transportation and school bus discipline program is to ensure the overall safe and efficient transportation for all students. As such, I ask parents whose students ride the school buses to discuss the appropriate standards of behavior and school bus discipline with their children. Parents or sponsors are also reminded that school bus transportation is a privilege, not a right, and that children will be held accountable for their behavior.

Schools overall

Recently transferred to the Kaiserslautern School District, our school community is comprised of the five main operating base schools here in the Eifel and three geographically-separated unit schools in Geilenkirchen, Kleine Brogel and Volkel, as well as the Eifel School Board and the individual school Parent, Teacher, Student Associations and school advisory councils.

Eifel School Board

The Eifel School Board, originally established for a two-year test period, has been extended another year. Its 10 members, two from each of the Spangdahlem/Bitburg schools, represent the parental voice for our schools collectively.

The current members are: Robert Marshall and Leonides Soto for Spangdahlem Elementary School; Jesse Crandall and Cordell Johns for Bitburg Elementary School; Willie Solsberry and Vernon Thompson for Bitburg Middle School; Jeffrey Davis and Ed Gavagan for Bitburg High School; and Cindy Rameres plus one parent pending election for Spangdahlem Middle School.

The public meetings for School Year 2002/03 are scheduled for Sept. 26, Dec. 5, Feb. 13 and May 15. The board members welcome community inputs and participation.

Points of contact

This is a list of important phone numbers, e-mail addresses and Web sites:

■ Schools Liaison Office

Schools liaison officer: Audrey Burkell

Phone number: 452-6942

E-mail:

52sptg.dodds@spangdahlem.af.mil

Web site:

http://intranet.spangdahlem.af.mil/52fw/52fwgroups/52sg_staff/DoDDS/default.asp

■ Bitburg High School

Principal: Bob Kubarek

Phone number: 452-9202

E-mail:

principal_bitburg_hs@eu.odedodea.edu

Web site: [www.bitb-\(no](http://www.bitb-nohyphen/jhs.eu.odedodea.edu/)

[hyphen\)/jhs.eu.odedodea.edu/](http://www.bitb-nohyphen/jhs.eu.odedodea.edu/)

■ Bitburg Middle School

Principal: Virginia Briggs

Phone number: 452-9110

principal_bitburg_ms@eu.odedodea.edu

Web site: [www.bitb-](http://www.bitb-ms.eu.odedodea.edu/)

[ms.eu.odedodea.edu/](http://www.bitb-ms.eu.odedodea.edu/)

■ Bitburg Elementary School

Principal: Susan Ussery

Phone number: 452-9215

E-mail:

principal_bitburg_es@eu.odedodea.edu

Web site: [www.bitb-](http://www.bitb-es.eu.odedodea.edu/)

[es.eu.odedodea.edu/](http://www.bitb-es.eu.odedodea.edu/)

■ Spangdahlem Middle School: 452-7205

Principal: Elizabeth Childs

Phone number: 452-7205

E-mail:

principal_spangdahlem_ms@eu.odedodea.edu

Web site: [www.spang-](http://www.spangdahlem.ms.eu.odedodea.edu/)

[ms.eu.odedodea.edu/](http://www.spangdahlem.ms.eu.odedodea.edu/)

■ Spangdahlem Elementary School: 452-6881

Principal: Ruth Morgan

Phone number: 452-6881

E-mail:

principal_spangdahlem_es@eu.odedodea.edu

Web site: [www.spang-](http://www.spangdahlem.es.eu.odedodea.edu/)

[es.eu.odedodea.edu/](http://www.spangdahlem.es.eu.odedodea.edu/)

Kaiserslautern District Superintendent:

Dr. Archie Bates

Web site: [www.kais-](http://www.kaiserslautern.dso.eu.odedodea.edu/)

[dso.eu.odedodea.edu/](http://www.kaiserslautern.dso.eu.odedodea.edu/)

U.S. Air Forces in Europe Schools

Web site:

<https://wwwmil.usafe.af.mil/direct/dp/dodds.htm>

Department of Defense Education Activities Director:

Dr. Joseph D. Tafuya

Web site: <http://www.odedodea.edu/>



In the left: Kimberly Biasotti, 2nd grade, Kyle Velez, 5th grade, and Paul Velez, 3rd grade, shop for school supplies at the Spangdahlem Main Exchange. They are all getting ready to go back to school Monday.

Editorial Staff

Col. Stephen Mueller.....Commander
Capt. Angela Johnson.....Chief, Public Affairs
Tech. Sgt. Rich Romero.....Internal Information
Staff Sgt. Cindy York.....Editor

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Col. Stephen Mueller

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The Direct Line program is a way to
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Number of days
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As of Thursday

12

You have a choice.
Call Airmen Against
Drunk Driving
at 452-2233.

Viewpoint

Aug. 23, 2002

Page 6

Mobility Machine -- how'd we do last week?

By Lt. Col. Brad Reinert
52nd Fighter Wing Mobility Machine

The leadership and supervision of the 52nd
Fighter Wing's mobility machine launched a
good old-fashioned "Lou Holtz" talk at 7 a.m.
Aug. 13.

(For those of you who are too young to know,
Lou Holtz is the former head football coach of
Notre Dame. He later went into broadcasting as a
commentator/analyst and is now the head
football coach for the University of South
Carolina. He is renowned for his motivational
techniques and helping his players realize their
fullest potential.)

The following day, Reference Start Time,
(also known as RST), kicked off at about noon.
The senior battle staff convened at 1 p.m., and
we were off and running. Our task: Generate six
F-16CJs and six A-10As and have them airborne
no later than 24 hours later.

At RST plus three (hours), the wing convened
a mobility concept briefing, with nearly every
squadron commander and their unit deployment
manager in the room, ready to address their
individual unit taskings and whether or not they
could support.

In the meantime, back in the squadrons, unit
increment monitors were building their pallets
and readying their equipment for delivery to the
mobility machine's cargo deployment function.

At RST plus four, the first cargo piece began
rolling into the CDF for joint inspection, to
confirm airworthiness for transport aboard U.S.
Air Force C-130s to the war zone downrange. I
personally watched the CDF leadership stand
their troops tall, and check them all for personal
protective gear - steel toe boots, reflective belts
and leather gloves. Then they briefed them on
the mission, their hours, weather forecast,
possible exercise scenarios and above all -- CDF
safety. It was an awesome sight.

Soon after, the cargo began rolling through.
We learned a lot. Our guest mentors, Master Sgt.
Lou Smith from 16th Air Force logistics at
Aviano Air Base, Italy, and Master Sgt. Chris
Boros from U.S. Air Forces in Europe

headquarters were on hand to help coach our
folks, as another set of eyes. They also were
there to help us identify and correct weak links
we didn't know we had. And we found several;
but, collectively, we began fixing them.

As the exercise progressed, we stubbed our
toes a few times, particularly with our response
to a suspicious package delivered to the
deployment control center. But, that's what
exercises are designed for - to work the process,
inject an unexpected problem, work our way
through it and train, train, train, honing our skills.
That's the name of the game.

Our CDF performed like never before,
working hand-in-glove with unit increment
monitors, enforcing the rules, and ensuring all
paperwork, load lists, packing lists, placarding
and the like accompanying their cargo were
accurate and on the mark. When it wasn't, the
CDF informed the units of the problem, the item
would become "frustrated" (unable to be
accepted as airworthy) and would not be able to
proceed until the unit corrected it.

As we began loading simulated C-130s, our
cargo load teams were all over it. They had loads
uploaded from the cargo marshalling yard to the
simulated aircraft 30 minutes prior to cargo load
start time and began loading on the scheduled
hour. When exercise injects interrupted that flow,
the CDF team adapted and overcame.

Shortly thereafter, our personnel deployment
function, responsible for processing all of our
deployers through the processing line and
building/delivering personal baggage pallets to
the simulated C-130s, was on the mark too. It's
important to mention that the USAFE inspector
general grading criteria contains "zero tolerance"
for late cargo and passenger load start times. It's
everyone's business in the mobility machine to
keep on top of their game and avoid potential
failure with late cargo and passenger load start
times.

The mobility machine is getting closer and
closer to perfection - only because we're
practicing regularly. But, we still have a ways to
go. This exercise we focused on cargo

preparation, paperwork accuracy, placarding,
airworthiness, dimensions/weights matching
loadlists and load plans, and passenger manifests
(numbers of passengers) matching the load plan.
All those small items mount to big ones, and
could devastate us come game time.

When Gen. Colin Powell was chairman of the
joint chiefs, he published "Colin Powell's rules."
I have them displayed in my office right now.
One of them is "Check small things" ... we did
and we're glad. We also concentrated on the
quality control of the troop commander, aircraft
commander packages and station file copies.
Coupling our experienced pros with some of our
less experienced folks, we're finding a successful
combinations, but it still requires practice to get
better and better.

The mobility machine had just begun to churn
synchronized battle rhythm, when the evaluation
team injected yet another test, never before seen,
to stress the players and the decision making
process even more. A second concept briefing
ensued, and we were off and running to work the
challenges of the follow-on tasking.

So, how did we do? Our guest mentors issued
strong commentaries on how much better we are
getting each time we exercise. Attitudes and
sense of urgency are 50 percent of the success
formula. Job competency, willingness to adapt
and overcome, weapons of mass destruction
injects and flawless execution are the other 50
percent.

We did okay warriors - but, I, like you, won't
be comfortable in declaring "we're the best" until
our experts from the USAFE IG come and tell us
we're the best. From now until the operational
readiness inspection is over, stay the course,
remain focused, maintain your readiness, execute
your mobility duties with absolute precision, and
when you hear we're going to exercise yet again
... remember why we're doing it.

As we embark upon the anniversary of Sept.
11 and remember what terrorists did to our
country, our way of life, and our families, I
expect your response to be a resounding ... Let's
Roll!

Exercise? What happened to base services?

By Col. Ian P. O'Connell
52nd Mission Support Group commander

Last week's exercise saw a number of base services curtailed or closed
for very good reason. Read on!

To meet the 52nd Fighter Wing's goal of getting jets and people out of
town quickly - within 24 hours of notification by higher headquarters - it
takes the entire wing to drop their "home station operations" and focus
100 percent effort, energy and enthusiasm in getting this wing out of
Spangdahlem Air Base and into the war zone. That means the fighter jets
and all the support equipment, tools and people to achieve our national
objectives.

Your day-to-day military duty may be in the traffic management office
processing people's household goods or in the clinic administering
immunizations to family members. You may be a customer service
professional at the communication squadron's help desk or anywhere else
in the wing. However, when we exercise for Euro Lightning, we reach out
and tap every available resource in this wing to aid that effort. Your
normal duties will fall by the wayside, because we are an Expeditionary
Air Force, and our mandate is to get jets, cargo and people out of town.

Does that sound like customer service is taking a back seat? You bet it
is and for good reason.

When we are tasked to deploy, our national leaders have determined
that United States interests and our democratic way of life and freedom are
at stake somewhere in the world. They've tasked the 52nd Fighter Wing to
deploy and do what we get paid to do ... defend our country.

With the limited resources we have (people to do the job), our only
option is to curtail services or sometimes close customer service facilities.
We do this because we've taken people from those facilities to work either
performing "mobility machine" duties or augmenting our security forces
because our regular cops have been tasked to deploy. Someone in uniform
has to man our gates and guard our base perimeter from potentially hostile
forces.

That's a monumental effort by one and all! So, for those of you reading
this, military or civilian, who just can't understand why your medical
appointment was cancelled due to the exercise, there's a reason. Although
it temporarily inconveniences you, we solicit your help and understanding.
Our national security depends on it!



Community Mailbox

Friendship club

The German-American Friendship Club takes a trip to the flea market in Tongeren, Belgium, Sunday. The trip leaves the Speicher Rathaus at 7 a.m. and returns around 7 p.m.

After the flea market closes at around 1 p.m., the trip continues to Losheim for lunch, and options of visiting an exhibition of nativity scenes, a model train exhibition, Belgian furniture store or Belgian supermarket.

For more information, call Gisela Traut at 06562-2464.

Sunday Night Live

The Spangdahlem Air Base Chapel hosts "Sunday Night Live" Sunday from 5-7 p.m.

After a light meal, there will be a contemporary praise and worship service. SNL won't meet Labor Day weekend, but restarts Sept. 8 when Chaplain (Maj.) Cassandra Thomas begins a series on "Jesus' Parables: A Look in the Mirror."

Worship is followed by religious education for all ages and stages of faith. For more information, call Alaine Strozier at 06565-955898 or Thomas at 452-6711 or 0656561-6711.

Spouses' meetings

■ The 606th Air Control Group spouses' meeting takes place Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Bitburg Chapel Annex. For more information, call Monica Benison at 452-7116.

■ The 52nd Communications Squadron Spouses' Group meets Sept. 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Spangdahlem Air Base Chapel Annex. For more information, call Patty Hutson at 06553-900331.

ACT-Eifel auditions

ACT-Eifel holds open auditions for the

October production of the murder-mystery "Dead Man's Hand," Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center Ballroom.

Parts are available for three men and three women. Tentative production dates are Oct. 18-20, 25 and 31.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Robert Benton at 452-7453, Harmony Martin at 06580-913210 or the community programs office at 452-7381.

Diabetic support group

A diabetic support group meeting takes place Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. in the Bitburg Annex Hospital large conference room. The guest speaker is a registered dietician. People are encouraged to bring a diabetic snack, dish or recipe.

For more information, call Capt. Donna Hornberger at 452-8225.

Support group

A support group meeting for families of a person with Attention Deficit Disorder or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder takes place Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Spangdahlem Air Base Youth Programs, building 427. Dinner and child-care are provided. For more information, call Myra Rock at 452-7545 or email myra@myrarock.com.

Airmen's Attic clearing

The Spangdahlem Air Base and Bitburg Annex Airmen's Attics hold a grab and go Thursday, beginning at 11:30 a.m. People are asked to help clear out old merchandise to make room for the new. Items taken Thursday do not count against monthly item counts. Free hot dogs are available at both locations, beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Bunny Club

The Bitburg Bunny Club Playgroup takes a trip to the Prummer Roman Tower Ruin and Irrel waterfall Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon. People interested in going should meet at the Bitburg TLF playroom at 10 a.m.

For more information, call Kim Tavalero or Michele Linnen at 452-3130.

Drama workshop

A church-based drama team presents a workshop at the Trinity Baptist Church in Metterich Aug. 31 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on incorporating drama into church services.

The workshop, which is for ages 8 through adults, is free and will be followed by a drama play at 4 p.m.

The church is located on Schulstrasse 19, between Spangdahlem and Bitburg, off of B-50. For more information or to register, call Mark Dickie at 06565-933118.

CCAF graduation

The deadline to have all required paperwork for the October Community College of the Air Force graduation is Aug. 30. People who have completed necessary credits to graduate are not automatically considered for graduation.

Individuals must call the education center at 452-6063 to ensure all transcripts, completed college courses and other requirements are taken care of to be considered for graduation.

OCSC coffee

The Officers' and Civilians' Spouses Club hosts a special activities coffee Sept. 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the Spang Club. Membership information will be available at the meeting. For more information, call Auline Platt at 06575-903445.

Shopping trip

A shopping trip to Kaefer's in Sohren takes place Sept. 6. The cost is \$8 per person. People interested in buying crystal, linen, china, collectibles or kitchenware should call 06561-604576.

The trip departs the Bitburg Annex Commissary at 8:30 a.m. and should return by 2:30 p.m.

Commissary case-lot sale

The second annual worldwide case-lot sale takes place Sept. 21 and 22 at the Bitburg Commissary.

People can find more information about the sale at www.commissaries.com in early September.

Natural family planning course

A natural family planning course takes place Sept. 6 at 7 p.m. and Sept. 7 at 9 a.m. in building 139. The third and fourth classes are scheduled for Oct. 18-19.

The Sympto-Thermal Method is a modern form of fertility awareness for couples wishing to achieve or avoid pregnancy.

For more information, call Carole Hart at 06565-933079 or e-mail catholicfamily@t-online.de. People can also visit www.ccli.org for more information.

Talent show

The King Citadel Military Lodge #163 holds a talent show in October, similar to Apollo Nite. People who sing, rap, read poetry or find themselves funny should call Tech. Sgt. Raul Wilshire at 452-6286, Master Sgt. Rickley Berry at 452-7999 or Senior Master Sgt. Ken Sturdivant at 452-7512.

Embry-Riddle classes

Embry-Riddle University offers AMT 281, Aircraft Propulsion Systems and Applications, beginning Sept. 7. This is a three-weekend class. The university also offers SF 435, Aircraft Crash Survival and Analysis, beginning Sept. 13. This two-weekend class can be used toward a bachelor's degree in professional aeronautics.

For more information about either class, call 452-7553 or stop by building 131.

Target scholarships

Target is awarding four \$10,000 and more than 2,100 \$1,000 scholarships for leadership and volunteerism to recent high school graduates and college students enrolled in college for the 2003-2004 fall term.

Final selections are based on service hours, volunteer leadership awards, recommendations and a minimum grade point average of 2.0. Applications are due by Nov. 1. For more information or to download an application, visit http://target.com/target_group/community_giving/scholarship.jhtml.

Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless indicated. More synopsis information is available at www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp.

Bitburg Castle

Today

Men in Black II (PG-13)

Kay and Jay reunite to provide the Earth's best, last and only line of defense against a sinister seductress who levels the toughest challenge yet to the MIB's untarnished mission statement: Protecting the earth from the scum of the universe. (Sci-fi action violence.)

Saturday

Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron (G, 4 p.m.)

Animated. A wild and rambunctious mustang stallion journeys through the untamed American frontier. Encountering man for the first time, Spirit defies being broken, even as he develops a friendship with a young Lakota brave. The courageous young stallion also finds love with a beautiful paint mare Rain on his way to becoming one of the greatest unsung heroes of the Old West.

Sunday

Men in Black II

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

Undercover Brother (PG-13)

He's back. He's bad. And he's here to rescue us all from The Man. It is a live-action comedy based on Urban Media's popular Web site series. Blasted from the past and ready to take care of business, Undercover Brother is recruited to infiltrate a sinister underground movement headed by The Man. Partnered with the sassy, stunning Sistah Girl, our hero must first undergo the ultimate attitude adjustment and trade in his 'fro and platforms for tennis sweaters and penny loafers. Once the transformation is complete, he's ready to take on the evil perpetrators of Operation Whitewash - Mr. Feather, White She Devil and ultimately, The Man. (Language, sexual humor, drug content and campy violence.)

Thursday

Men in Black II

Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

Divine Secrets of the Ya Ya Sisterhood (PG-13)

A Southern comedy drama about life, love and family which follows a group of lifelong friends as they stage a rather unorthodox intervention to help a young playwright unravel the truth about her eccentric mother, find forgiveness and come to terms with her difficult past. (Mature thematic elements, language and brief sensuality.)

Road to Perdition (R, 10 p.m.)

In Depression-era Chicago, hit man Michael O'Sullivan is known to friends and enemies alike as the "Angel of Death". Uncompromising in his work, O'Sullivan is just as devoted to his private life as an upstanding husband and father of two young boys. But when those worlds collide, taking the lives of his wife and younger son, O'Sullivan and his surviving son leave their sedate home life behind and embark on a startling journey of revenge. (Violence and language.)

Saturday

Spider-Man (PG-13)

Based on the legendary flagship character of Marvel comics, this is the story of Peter Parker, a student living with his Aunt May and Uncle Ben after the death of his parents when he was very young. He's an avid student with a much-less-than-stellar social life and a knack for bad luck. When a freak accident miraculously grants him incredible spider-like abilities, in effect, it makes him into the amazing Spider-Man. Peter will find that there's a thin line between an ordinary man and an extraordinary hero; and he'll have to be the one to cross it. (Stylized violence and action.)

Road to Perdition (10 p.m.)

Sunday

Bad Company (PG-13)

CIA operative Kevin Pope is suave, brilliant and right on the verge of completing a top-secret mission to keep a rogue nuclear weapon off the black market when he is suddenly killed. With the clock ticking and no other options available, the CIA reluctantly enlists Kevin's long-lost identical twin brother, Jake, to take his place. But since Jake is the mirror opposite of Kevin, a working-class Joe, it's up to veteran CIA agent Gaylord Oakes to train him within nine days to become a spy. (Intense sequences of violent action, some sensuality and language.)

Monday

Divine Secrets of the Ya Ya Sisterhood

Tuesday

Road to Perdition

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Times and movies are subject to change.
For the most current information,
call 452-9441.

Knights, squires come back to life

Manderscheid castle hosts jousting festival this weekend

By Iris Reiff
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Set yourself back in times at the Manderscheid castle festival this weekend and watch how knights and squires come back to life. The Lower Castle or Niederburg, belonging to the Eifel Club, and the Upper Castle, or Oberburg of Manderscheid, will be the site for medieval heroism Saturday and Sunday.

Both castles have a quite interesting history: The Upper Castle was first mentioned in history in the year 923 and belonged to the Trier principality for many centuries. It is one of the oldest castles of the Eifel region.

The Lower Castle's existence was first documented in 1133. The lower and larger castle, along with its fortified valley settlement, had strong ties to the Duchy of Luxembourg. The Lieser river, which separates the two fortresses represented the borderline between the two territories.

It so happened that the two castles were "foes" for many centuries. In 1794 the Niederburg was destroyed by French revolutionary troops. The 18-meter high tower built during the 12th century presents a beautiful, romantic view of the Lieser river valley. The Niederburg was purchased by the Eifel Club in 1899.

Once again this year the two majestic castles - which face each other - reflect the mysterious Middle Ages with a highlight festival. A group of knights, known as the Duesseldorf Lehnensritter, will create a jousting place where during the two days of the tournament the knights on their horses will battle with lances, swords, bows and spears.

Minstrel singers and small singing



File photo

The Manderscheid Castle hosts a jousting festival this weekend.

groups will entertain with ballads. For the younger guests, a children's jousting match will be offered in front of the Nieder castle and puppet shows performed inside the castle's cellar. Performances by buffoons, jugglers and fire spitters can be seen throughout the festival in different locations. A special highlight of the festival, however, is an artisan or handicraft market featuring blacksmiths, lantern craftsmen, flower arrangers and other participants demonstrating their skills.

Activities start off at noon Saturday with the opening of the market, followed by a variety of musical and theater performances. Full-armored jousting matches will be presented by the Loewenritter on horses at 2:30 and 9 p.m. A giant fireworks display follows at 10 p.m. over the Niederburg with a tavern spectacle following at 10:30 p.m.

Celebrations continue Sunday with the opening of the handicraft market at noon, following a church service. Another full-armored jousting match, performed by the Loewenritter knights,

can be seen at 2:30 and 7 p.m. at the tournament fields or Turnierwiesen. Musical and theater performances will follow.

Entertainment continues until about 10 p.m. Sunday, when this year's Manderscheid historical festival comes to an end with a Great Curfew.

Musical performances, fairy tale stories and other events await visitors throughout the event.

Americans are especially invited to enjoy the 2002 Manderscheid castle festival.

Manderscheid's two castle ruins can also be visited daily throughout the year.

The town of Manderscheid is located north of the Mosel River, directly north of Autobahn A 1/48. To get there, take a right outside the main gate and follow the signs.

As you get into Manderscheid stay on the main road until you get to the first main intersection. Take a right at this intersection, following the signs "Zu den Burgen," or to the castles.

Out and About

(Note: Events are subject to change at short notice. To double-check on an event prior to attending, call the telephone information office at 11833 and ask for a number to the tourist office in the town the event takes place. Tourist office agents, who usually speak English, can say whether an event was canceled.)

■ Enjoy the 54th German and 5th European Soap Box Derby championship races Aug. 30 through Sept. 1 in Bitburg. A Spangdahlem Middle School student will participate in the European Championships. For more information, go to www.skft.de.

■ Eifel Wanderers volksmarching club visits the Heidelberg castle Sept. 7. Club member cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. Non-member cost is \$30 for adults and \$20 for children.

Activities include a guided castle tour, evening castle illumination and fireworks. Another trip to Berchtesgarden, Germany, takes place Aug. 30-Sept. 2.

Cost is \$165 for adult members and \$110 for member's children. Price includes a two-night stay in Chiemsee. Call Theresa Stevens at 06569-963184 or e-mail chatterbox@gruenwald.de for details.

Information, Tickets and Tours offers the following tours in August and September. People should register for trips at least three days in advance. Call the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activity Center at 452-6567 or the Bitburg Annex ITT office at 06561-945937 for details.

■ Spain three-night stay, Aug. 29-Sept. 2. Cost is \$235 for ages 2-12, \$295 for adults.

■ Normandy, Aug. 30-Sept. 1. Cost is \$198 for adults.

■ Bernkastel wine festival, Aug. 31. Cost is \$15 for ages 3-12, \$20 for adults.

■ Bad Duerkheim wine and sausage festival, Sept. 7. Cost is \$20 for ages 3-12, \$25 for adults.

■ Berlin express, Sept. 7. Cost is \$69 for ages 3-12, \$79 for adults.

■ Paris express, Sept. 14. Cost is \$75 for ages 3-17, \$89 for adults.

■ Cologne City and chocolate museum, Sept. 14. Cost is \$30 for ages 3-12, \$35 for adults.

■ Venice and Nove, Italy, Sept. 13-14. Cost is \$100 for a single seat, \$130 for a double seat.